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REMARKS

In the office action of July 5, 2005, claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Regimbal et al. (US 5,736,993) in view of Shirato et al. (US 4,334,234). Claims 2, 4 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Regimbal et al. in view of Shirato et al. in view of Regimbal et al. (US 5,736,993). Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Regimbal et al. in view of Shirato et al. in view of Chung et al. (European Pat. No. EP 1 321 294 A2). Claims 3, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Regimbal et al. in view of Shirato et al. (US 4,334,234).

Claims 14-49 are allowed. Claims 7-9 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The finding of allowable subject matter is appreciated.

Allowable claims 7, 8, and 12 have been rewritten in independent form as new claims 50, 51 and 53, and allowable claim 9 has been rewritten as new claim 52 which depends from claim 51.

Claims 1-13 have been canceled.

Claim 44 has been amended for clarification.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully believed that the case is in condition for allowance.

Although no additional fee is believed to be required for this response, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the Issue Fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

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If the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, please call Applicant's attorney, Manuel Quiogue at 503.685.4229 or fax him at 503.685.4223.

Respectfully submitted,



Manuel Quiogue
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 26,978
Tel. 503.685.4229
Fax 503.685.4223

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